

Kirra Vanzetti

From: GEORGE, Stephen [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 28 June 2017 10:00 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: FW: INQUIRY INTO THE FIREFIGHTERS' PRESUMPTIVE RIGHTS COMPENSATION AND FIRE SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM) BILL 2017

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees

INQUIRY INTO THE FIREFIGHTERS' PRESUMPTIVE RIGHTS COMPENSATION AND FIRE SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM) BILL 2017

Dear Sir Madam

I am Steve George

- rank Station Officer
- name of the employer. M.F.E.S.B
- length of service, 38 years
- qualifications Fire ground management including Wild Fire
- specialist qualifications Heavy rescue, Emergency management, Wild Fire 1 & 2 SSO Course except yard.
- And work MFESB fire station 26 (Croydon)
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- I live in Fish Creek Victoria
- And work MFESB fire station 26 (Croydon).[

3. I also volunteer in my community It would be nice to volunteer in my community, however this is not possible due to commitment to the fire brigade

4. I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform of the fire services for the following reasons:

- For a good outcome to occur on the fire ground needs several key components.
- (1) Rapid response at any given time
- (2) Guarantee of fully qualified personnel including specialist operators
- (3) Guarantee of sufficient resources at any given time
- (4) Proper structure to implement correct procedures as situation demands

- (5) Up to date and constant up grades of skills
- To achieve these criteria a full time fire service needs to be in place, especially in large communities.
- To combine MFESB and CFA career staff to create Fire rescue Victoria is an effective way to achieve this.

What this means for communities is a guaranteed rapid response to any emergency removing un necessary

delays in response which currently exist in volunteer areas and providing the appropriate expertise.

Employing career staff will not impact on volunteer turnout but simply ensure it used way more efficiently.

Volunteer support will still be maintained with operational fire fighters, an ideal way for this to occur is more integrated

stations under the Fire Rescue Victoria umbrella.

Volunteer numbers would not alter from their current numbers under the proposed Fire Rescue model, therefore

surge capacity not effected. Remote communities would not alter in any capacity with how they currently operate.

+Emergency services have to evolve and grow as communities do, therefore integrated stations need to be put in

place as this happens. This provides things like emergency medical response which currently does not exist in non career staff areas..

- • That the reform areas are around the 35 integrated stations primary response areas – no effect on other volunteer brigades or bushfire response
- • The 35 areas are now highly urbanised – high residential and other risks

- The reform will assist with standardisation of career training/specialist response/response standards and equipment etc
- Why it is better to have all career staff being employed by one fire service
- The damage the disputation in the workplace has had on your workplace and any additional strain that has had on you and your family.
- The reform will benefit volunteers as it has included a package to assist with volunteer recruitment and retention across the CFA; and includes funding for volunteer station upgrades etc

Yours sincerely,
Full Name: Stephen Robert George



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